

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 11, with the following amended paragraph:

This is a continuation-in-part of commonly owned U.S. patent application no. 10/334,747, filed December 31, 2002, now U.S. patent no. 6,873,611. This prior patent application is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety for all purposes.

Please replace paragraph [0017] with the following amended paragraph:

[0017] FIGURE 2A and FIGURE 2B illustrate a pair of WLAN block diagrams. FIGURE 2A shows the following WLAN component elements: the frequency agile radio, the CCK and OFDM modulators, and the MAC mechanism (including the data flow structure framework - organizer). FIGURE 2B is a schematic representation of the Multiprotocol Core Datagram Flow Structure (MPCDFS), itself incorporating the transmitted and received, wired and wireless data packet flow into, within and out from the data portals of a WLAN device incorporating the Multiprotocol Core invention.

Please replace paragraph [0033] with the following amended paragraph:

[0033] FIGURE 2A illustrates a WLAN block diagram in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. The diagram shows the following WLAN component elements: the frequency agile radio, the CCK and OFDM modulators, and the MAC mechanism (including the data flow structure framework, also referred to as the data flow organizer). FIGURE 2B presents details of the data flow structure framework as a diagram of the MPCDFS structure illustrating the data packet routing within a generalized Multiprotocol

Device. Note that this MPCDFS, in addition to supporting its three specific claimed MP Device embodiments, is also readily reducible to a data flow structure characteristic of an unclaimed single protocol legacy IEEE 802.11-1997 AP. This Multiprotocol Core structure 200 of FIGURE 2B consists of four distinct bi-directional portals, the DS portal 201, IT portal 204, D1OT portal 207 and the D2 portal 210.

Please replace paragraph [0038] with the following amended paragraph:

[0038] FIGURE 2B also illustrates the permissible internal datagram routing between the four possible Multiprotocol Core 200 portals. Note that datagrams originating at any portal's receive buffer may be routed to any one other portal's transmit queue. The fundamental defining characteristic of the Multiprotocol Core structure 200 is that it supports the operational functionality of any 802.11 AP device, single protocol or multiple protocol, by judiciously routing datagrams between its appropriately enabled portals. Specifically, legacy IEEE 802.11-1997-compliant 802.11a, 802.11b or 802.11b/g Access Points as well as all the claimed MP Device embodiments can be modeled as specific reduced-complexity instantiations of the general MPCDFS.

Please replace paragraph [0045] with the following amended paragraph:

[0045] The HCMPR Slave SPAP ("SSPAP") is a single protocol MPCDFS implementation, illustrated in Figure 3E as SSPAP 342, that serves to route datagrams between its P3 portal and its DS portal. The P3 portal may be configured as desired for IT, D1OT or D2 functionality. Referring back to FIGURE 2B, the SSPAP is an MPCDFS with

only its DS and P3 (IT, D1OT or D2, as configured) portals enabled, such that incoming traffic at DS R 202 is routed to the P3 TQ port and incoming traffic at the P3 R port is routed to DS TQ 203.